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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/870,010      | 05/29/2001  | Tetsuji Yamaguchi    | 83300.0003          | 8423             |

26021 7590 07/01/2005

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EXAMINER

POON, KING Y

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                               |                                  |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No.<br>09/870,010 | Applicant(s)<br>YAMAGUCHI ET AL. |  |
|                              | Examiner<br>King Y. Poon      | Art Unit<br>2624                 |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 May 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/13/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gase (US 6,184,996).

Regarding claims 1, 3: Gase teaches a system (fig. 1) of managing image data (column 4, lines 9-34) a network (WWW, fig. 1) comprising an image input device (scanner, column 4, lines 50-65); an image forming device (printer, column 3, lines 11-15) including storage means (eventually printed, column 4, lines 60-65, inherently the printer must have a memory for storing the for storing downloaded text file if the text file is not printed right the way, note) inputted by the image input device, at least one of the image input device and the image forming device being connected to the network (fig. 1); and a client computer (e.g., 10, fig. 1), connected to the network for managing the image data stored in the storage means (e.g., when to print the image data or the number of copies, column 4, lines 20-37) via the network.

Note: Gase, column 1, lines 60-67, column 2, lines 1-10, teaches that his invention is to improve on the printer type that must have ability to establish a queue

(storage means) for received print job to be handled in an orderly manner. It is desirable that the client processors have an ability to view the print queue and, to access information regarding the status of each print job on the print queue as well as to manage the print queue.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gase as applied to claims 1, 3 above, and further in view of Kurachi (US 6,181,436).

Regarding claims 2, 4: Gase does not teach wherein the image forming device includes a converter and a network interface; the storage means comprises a binary data storage section for storing the image data as binary data and a text data storage section for storing text data converted data from the binary data by the converted; and the network interface includes a software for managing the text data and transmits the text data stored in the text data storage section to the client computer.

Hurachi, in the same area of managing print job data stored in a printer, teaches it is desirable of transmitting image data stored in the printer to a client (column 1, lines 40-66, column 2, lines 1-10. In doing so, the image forming device includes a converter (the program code for step 64, fig. 11) and a network interface (the program code of S69, fig. 1.1, and 3h, fig. 9); the storage means comprises a binary data storage section

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(the storage that stored print data of S63, fig. 11; inherently all print data are binary data because computer works with data of "1" and "0") for storing the image data as binary data and a text data storage section (the storage section that stores S64; note after the modification with Gase, the rough image are text data, column 4, lines 60-65, Gase) for storing text data converted data from the binary data by the converted; and the network interface includes a software (software of step 69, fig. 11) for managing (sending the right rough image data among a plurality of rough image data) the text data and transmits the text data stored in the text data storage section to the client computer.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Gase to include: wherein the image forming device includes a converter and a network interface; the storage means comprises a binary data storage section for storing the image data as binary data and a text data storage section for storing text data converted data from the binary data by the converted; and the network interface includes a software for managing the text data and transmits the text data stored in the text data storage section to the client computer, because of the reason and teaching as disclosed in column 1 and column 2, of Kurachi.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments, see page 1-8, amendment filed on 3/28/2005, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-4 under Hidaka and Kurachi have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn.

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However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Gase and Kurachi. Please see detailed office action.

***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is 571-272-7440. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

June 19, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'King Y. Poon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**KING Y. POON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**